



May 16, 2004

#14 3673
Amended 41
2/6/04
5/22/04

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

MAY 26 2004

GROUP 3600

Art Unit 3673, Application No. 09/751,264
Examiner: Mr. Frederick L. Lagman
Response to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (Attached)

The attachment restates amended claims filed on October 21, 2003, with status identifiers and with markings to differentiate the amended claims from previous submittal of September 14, 2003.

Sincerely,

Andrew Chow, Applicant
15306 Parkville Drive
Houston, TX 77068

RECEIVED

MAY 26 2004

GROUP 3600



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
P.O. Box 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Paper No. 13

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)

The amendment document filed on 10/21/03 ^(RCE Rg 2/5/04) is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121, as amended on June 30, 2003 (see 68 Fed. Reg. 38611, Jun. 30, 2003). In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required. Only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment document must be resubmitted (in its entirety), e.g., the entire "Amendments to the claims" section of applicant's amendment document must be re-submitted. 37 CFR 1.121(h).

THE FOLLOWING CHECKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- ☐ 1. Amendments to the specification:
 - ☐ A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
 - ☐ B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
 - ☐ C. Other _____
- ☐ 2. Abstract:
 - ☐ A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
 - ☐ B. Other _____
- ☐ 3. Amendments to the drawings: _____
- ☒ 4. Amendments to the claims:
 - ☐ A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
 - ☐ B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all claims (including withdrawn claims)
 - ☒ C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified.
 - ☐ D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
 - ☐ E. Other: _____

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP Sec. 714 and the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/officeflyer.pdf>.

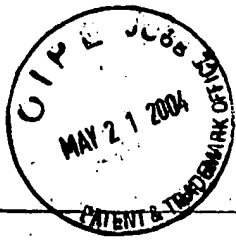
If the non-compliant amendment is a **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**, applicant is given **ONE MONTH** from the mail date of this letter to supply the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121. Failure to comply with 37 CFR 1.121 will result in non-entry of the preliminary amendment and examination on the merits will commence without consideration of the proposed changes in the preliminary amendment(s). This notice is not an action under 35 U.S.C. 132, and this **ONE MONTH** time limit is not extendable.

If the non-compliant amendment is a reply to a **NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION** (including a submission for an RCE), and since the amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to be a reply (37 CFR 1.135(c)), applicant is given a **TIME PERIOD** of **ONE MONTH** from the mailing of this notice within which to re-submit the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121 in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD ARE AVAILABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

If the amendment is a reply to a **FINAL REJECTION**, this form may be an attachment to an Advisory Action. The period for response to a final rejection continues to run from the date set in the final rejection, and is not affected by the non-compliant status of the amendment.

Wanda Brown
Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE)

(703) 308-4454
Telephone No.



RECEIVED

MAY 26 2004

GROUP 3600

1. (currently amended) A floating platform comprising:
a superstructure; a minimized wave-zone buoyancy structure; ~~a float; and a ballast substructure;~~
with said superstructure capable of floating and effective in providing buoyancy to keep platform afloat;
with said minimized wave-zone buoyancy structure having a low cross sectional area;
with the minimized wave-zone buoyancy structure having sufficient height to range over ocean waves;
~~with said float and said ballast together~~ substructure effective in providing buoyancy and stability; and
with the minimized wave-zone buoyancy structure effective in transmitting ~~said the~~ the superstructure's weight to the ~~float and ballast~~ substructure.
2. (previously presented) A floating platform according to claim 1, further comprising one or more live load stabilizers, with said live load stabilizer or stabilizers attached to said minimized wave-zone buoyancy structure at a region from slightly above water level to slightly below water level so that the live load stabilizer or stabilizers operate in and out of the water and are effective in displacing water and in providing increased buoyancy lift when submerged.
3. (currently amended) A floating platform according to claim 1, further comprising:
one or more floating stabilizers; and limited-free-movement means;
with said floating stabilizer or stabilizers effective in providing buoyancy lift;
with the floating stabilizer or stabilizers attached to said floating platform ~~from above~~ said substructure by said limited-free-movement means; and
with the floating stabilizer or stabilizers floating at water level when the limited-free-movement means is slack and not engaged.
4. (currently amended) A floating platform according to claim 1, further comprising ~~limited-free-movement means~~ one or more slack cables, with said floating platform ~~anchored-attached~~ to ocean bottom by ~~said limited-free-movement means~~ slack cables and with the slack cables coming into tension only after the floating platform has been displaced upward by a predetermined distance.